

## Economic Research Service, USDA

## § 3701.2

and analysis on national rural and agricultural conditions and trends, and identifying and assessing the potential impact of public and private sector actions and policies that affect rural areas and the agricultural sector. General functions are:

(1) Analyzing and reporting on current economic and demographic issues facing rural areas and agricultural, especially how changes in the national and global economies affect rural areas and the agriculture sector.

(2) Determining the effects of economic, social, and governmental events and actions on the demand for and supply of rural local government services, the quality of such services, and the relationships between local services and the viability of rural communities.

(3) Developing and disseminating information on current trends in the non-metropolitan and farm populations, the number, location and characteristics of such people, and the factors associated with these trends.

(4) Developing estimates and analyzing labor force trends in rural labor markets, including analyses of unemployment and employment by industry and occupational groups, including farm labor.

(5) Developing data on the income situation of rural people and evaluating the effectiveness of alternative public policies and programs in improving incomes of rural people, especially people in disadvantaged groups.

(6) Monitoring information on and analyzing the development of rural portions of geographic regions of the United States, including changes in industry mix, impacts of energy costs, credit availability, and other economic activities.

(7) Analyzing and reporting on developments in rural and agricultural financial markets and in Federal tax laws, and their consequences for agriculture and rural economies.

(8) Collecting and disseminating financial information on farms and farm enterprises, and developing techniques necessary to measure and describe the financial condition of the agriculture sector and its components.

[61 FR 1827, Jan. 24, 1996, as amended at 64 FR 40736, July 28, 1999]

### § 3700.4 Authority to act for the Administrator.

In the absence of the Administrator, the following officials are designated to serve as Acting Administrator in the order indicated:

Associate Administrator  
Director, Commercial Agriculture Division  
Director, Food and Consumer Economics Division  
Director, Natural Resources and Environment Division  
Director, Rural Economy Division  
Director, Information Services Division  
Director, Office of Energy and New Uses

## PART 3701—PUBLIC INFORMATION

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AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301 and 552; 7 CFR part 1, subpart A.

SOURCE: 60 FR 66862, Dec. 27, 1995, unless otherwise noted.

### § 3701.1 General statement.

This part is issued in accordance with the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture in part 1, subpart A of this title, implementing the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552). The Secretary's regulations, as implemented by the regulations in this part, govern the availability of records of the Economic Research Service (ERS) to the public.

### § 3701.2 Public inspection, copying, and indexing.

5 U.S.C. 552(a)(2) requires that certain materials be made available for public inspection and copying and that a current index of these materials be published quarterly or otherwise be made available. Members of the public may request access to such materials maintained by ERS at the following office: Information Staff, Agricultural Research Service, USDA, 6303 Ivy Lane, Room 456, Greenbelt, MD 20770; Telephone (301) 344-2207. Office Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### **§ 3701.3**

#### **§ 3701.3 Request for records.**

Requests for records of ERS shall be made in accordance with §1.6 (a) and (b) of this title and submitted to the FOIA Coordinator, Agricultural Research Service, USDA, 6303 Ivy Lane, Room 456, Greenbelt, MD 20770; Telephone (301) 344-2207, Facsimile (301) 344-2325, TDD (301) 344-2425. The FOIA Coordinator is delegated authority to make determinations regarding such requests in accordance with §1.3(a)(3) of this title.

#### **§ 3701.4 Denials.**

If the FOIA Coordinator determines that a requested record is exempt from mandatory disclosure and that discretionary release would be improper, the FOIA Coordinator shall give written notice of denial in accordance with §1.8(a) of this title.

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#### **§ 3701.5 Appeals.**

Any person whose request is denied shall have the right to appeal such denial. Appeals shall be made in accordance with Section 1.6(e) of this title and should be addressed as follows: Administrator, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.

#### **§ 3701.6 Requests for published data and information.**

Information on published data from ERS programs is contained in the ERS "Reports" newsletter, available without cost from the Economic Research Service, Information Center, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1301 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20005.